

VZCZCXRO7774

PP RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHGI RUEHJO RUEHMA RUEHMR RUEHPA RUEHRN RUEHTRO

DE RUEHUJA #2541 3661042

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 311042Z DEC 08

FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4846

INFO RUEHZO/AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE

RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0063

RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0005

RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0077

RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0244

RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1608

RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0590

RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 0531

RHMFIASS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE

RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC

RUEAAIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC

RHMFIASS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE

RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS ABUJA 002541

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/W, INR/AA  
AF/RSA FOR MIKE SKARDON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL PGOV KPKO SO NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: REINFORCING AMISOM

REF: A. SECSTATE 134421

1B. ABUJA 2371

1C. ABUJA 2347

1D. ABUJA 2118 AND PREVIOUS

11. (U) Per reftel, DCM spoke with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ambassador Bagudu Hirse on December 30 regarding reftel request and offer. Hirse underscored Nigeria's intent to deploy a full battalion to Somalia, and asked for a note verbale laying out our points so that he could take it up with his "higher authorities". Note has been forwarded to Ambassador Hirse.

12. (U) Ambassador is attempting to reach Foreign Minister Ojo Madeukwe by phone, who is currently out of Abuja.

13. (SBU) Comment: We have raised Nigeria's deployment of a battalion to Somalia and our willingness to supply equipment many times over the past year (reftels). Given Nigeria's track record to date on responding to this issue as well as the pending \$3 million the USG has promised Nigeria for military equipment, we doubt that the GON will move in a timely manner on this demarche, but we will continue to push the issue.  
Sanders